

  
*Capitol*  
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news

from  
Hollywood

APRIL 1949  
VOL. 7 NO. 4



**BENNY GOODMAN**



ONLY A BOP virtuoso could adopt a garb like this. Latch Sahib Shihab, alto saxist with Tadd Dameron, as he etched a master last month in New York with Dameron's combo. Flip over to Page 9 for more details.

## Stars Flock To Welcome KTTV

Formal dedication ceremonies which "officially" put KTTV, the television station of CBS and the Los Angeles Times, on the air last month featured Jack Benny as emcee and a strong lineup of participating guests.

Margaret Whiting, like Benny, also made her television bow on the program. Bob Crosby, the Andrews Sisters, Jerry Gray, Isaac Stern joined in to make the 75-minute program memorable.



THE CABBIE knew the book. "I get all kinds of 'em in this hack," he said, not even turning around, "and I can spot a music man before I get his bags stowed.

"There's something different about 'em. A banker just sits and gapes out the window. A lawyer always digs into his satchel and starts shufflin' through documents or whatever it is them guys carry. Yeah, and them bigshot movie people are only interested in whatever dame they're with—and they always are.

"But as I said, those music guys act different. They'll squirm around, light a smoke, roll up the window, demand me to change the radio program, squint out the rear window and all the time they talk . . . talk . . . talk. And you think they talk Baseball? Horses? Women? Naw, Buddy, that's where you don't know human nature. They're not interested in things that are uplifting or classy or high tide; they're mumbling about grosses. Grosses, that's it. Always grosses.

"I was three years hauling fares before I got wise to that jive. Grosses, y'understand, is a long-haul word for loot, gold, lettuce, green—money. A band grosses so much a week, a record grosses two million bucks, a singer grosses, say, five bills per. Get the idea?

"Now you'll find that this old world would stop spinning if all grosses stopped. It's very involved for a gent to savvy if he's not hipped like me and the music men I know, so I won't try to confuse your thinking. But if a druggist doesn't gross a mess every day, he's gotta fold up his store. A railroad has to gross big every minute or it has to stop operatin' and all the cabooses are caboosed and the firemen are fired.

"Well, Bud, the music business isn't grossing these days and hasn't been for years and some of the fares I haul from the Palladium have got me jumpy too. What the world needs right this minute is a really good song, Bud, and a really good band wouldn't hurt things none either. A good song and a good band, a good singer and a good record, a good—well, I ain't gonna get too involved. The idea is to gross big. Boffo. Sock. If just one great new thing came along, biff! We're all in.

"You want the Sunset or the Vine entrance? Don't make no difference to me, Bud. I'll gross the same either way.

"Hey now, what's this, a record company? You work there? Jeez, you don't act like one of them guys. You ain't even opened your mouth. Listen, Mister, I've got some songs my wife and I wrote that everybody says are better than them Hit Parade things. You won't mind if I park this heap and show a few to you? Why, this ballad about the boy and the girl and the mule who came between them can't miss.

"I guarantee, Mister, it'll gross us five million."

## Krupa Opens At Palladium April Fifth

With the powerful trumpet of Roy (Little Jazz) Eldridge once again sparking his band, Gene Krupa will sweep back into the Hollywood Palladium on April 5 for four—possibly five—weeks in the wake of Benny Goodman's current run.

Eldridge rejoined the drummer's ork last month after leading a band of his own sporadically. It was in 1940-41-42 that Eldridge blew up a hurricane with Krupa in a memorable outfit which also featured vocals by Anita O'Day, clarinet by Sammy Musicker and guitar by Ray Biondi.

Krupa's singers this trip will be Dolores Hawkins and Bill Black, both comparatively new.

Les Brown is booked to follow Krupa's krew in May. But first he has to go out on another tour with Bob Hope's troupe.

## Mag Off Air Temporarily

Margaret Whiting's decision to leave the CBS "Club 15" program doesn't mean she is retiring professionally.

But it will give Madcap Mag a chance to be with her husband, Hubbell Robinson of the Columbia web. They'll be together in New York for the spring and summer and Mag will not have to rush around to make broadcasts every other day. She will continue to record often, in Capitol's N. Y. studios.

Evelyn Knight is said to be the replacement. Bob Crosby, the Andrews Sisters and Jerry Gray's band will continue as before.



BACK TO Hollywood comes Gene Krupa for an April 5 opening at the Palladium. Big news of the engagement is that Roy Eldridge will be back with Gene on trumpet.

## Russells Set NBC Series

Della and Andy Russell—she's his wife—are virtually certain to undertake a new radio program soon over NBC from Hollywood.

Format of the strip will be strictly domestic, the "Mr. and Mrs." angle being emphasized. The deal for the baritone and his singing frau to air was hashed over in Chicago last month while the Russells were appearing at the Hotel Blackstone.



The rush to London for personal appearances continues. On April 11, at the London Palladium, Kathryn Grayson, her husband Johnnie Johnston and Ethel Smith, organist, will be featured for two weeks. On April 25, Danny Kaye opens for six weeks. Frank Sinatra is set for July, the Andrews Sisters go over in August and Dorothy Lamour and Jimmy Durante also appear to be pretty well set.

As for Benny Goodman's European plans, see Page 10.

Count Basie's new drummer is Butch Willard, who takes over the chair formerly held by Shadow Wilson, who hopped back east from Hollywood to join the Woody Herman herd.

Out of the Cricket Club (which folded) and Ciro's, Savannah Churchill and the King Odom Four open April 8 at Cal-Neva Lodge in Reno, Nev.

Meredith Willson's final broadcast for Jello was March 30. Sponsor will put the money into television advertising.

Joe Norman, an obscure California bandleader, was awarded \$54,000 in L. A. Superior Court for alleged rough treatment by bouncers at the Hollywood Palladium. The dancery has appealed the decision.

Paula Kelly and the singing Modernaires will open in Las Vegas at the Last Frontier for a fortnight April 8.

Helen Forrest doing singing single at Eddie's Oasis, campus nitery near USC in Los Angeles, where Kay Starr rang the bell last fall.

Buddy Clark okay after operation in Hollywood.



**JO STAFFORD** took her duties seriously as women's radio chairman for the annual national campaign of the American Heart Association. She's shown with Actor Ray Milland doing a special broadcast via ABC; Jo also teamed with Paul Weston's ork for a similar program over NBC. This, too, shows Jo's new hairdo for the first time. Or were you looking for Milland's jug?

## Martin-Lewis Tee Off New Air Show April 3

Although it was still "secret" as to their having a sponsor, Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis were virtually certain of launching their new NBC comic airshow on April 3 from Hollywood.

Martin, a fast-rising singer, and Lewis, with a new brand of humor which has proven sock in west coast, New York and Florida night clubs, are NBC's answer to CBS. The latter web recently "stole" Jack Benny, Red Skelton, Amos & Andy and other stellar performers from NBC's airwaves.

Rumors are that Martin and Lewis will be sponsored by the makers of Lifebuoy soap. But NBC hasn't yet confirmed those reports.

The two young artists, meanwhile, are not standing around idle. They've been working daily the

past month on the Paramount lot, where Hal Wallis is making "My Friend Irma" as a full-length movie. Marie Wilson also is getting her big film break in the pic.

NBC is asking more than \$10,000 a week for the team of Martin-Lewis. They will be heard Sundays.

### 'Ish Kabibble' Will Front New Zany Ork

Kay Kyser's deadpan comic-trumpeter "Ish Kabibble" will soon be fronting his own small combo. A star with Kyser for more than a decade, "Ish" (actually Merwyn Bogue) has been rehearsing a seven-piece crew here in Hollywood and MCA is setting up bookings. Ork's style will be grooved along the zany Red Ingle-Spike Jones lines.



**DUKE ELLINGTON** "officially" denied printed reports that his band soon would break up, in last month's Cap News, but time will tell if he was merely stalling until a more opportune time.

For at least four men in his band continue to insist that the notice has been posted and that—within the next 60 days—the mighty Duke will disband his organization and concentrate on composing. Johnny Hodges, for one, approached Gene Norman of the Hollywood Empire for a possible summer booking with the Rabbit fronting a small combo. Norman, moreover, assured him that he would "buy" the band when... and if.

But Duke says it won't happen.

Vic Dickenson and his trombone have been playing again with Count Basie. But it's probably just temporary. Vic wants to remain in California.

Ted Fio Rito and his band made a musical short at U-I with assistance from the Modernaires, the Peggy Taylor Trio and Margaret Brown, dancer.

Dorothy Baker's "Young Man With A Horn" novel, which has been kicking around Hollywood for at least nine years, again is showing signs of being produced on film. Warner Brothers put Carl Foreman to work on a screenplay and Jerry Wald will probably be called in to get it rolling.

Kid Ory, trombone vet, and band clicked on KLAC television show. Band has been working at the Beverly Cavern in L. A.

Les Brown's band will open Rendezvous Ballroom at Balboa Beach (where Kenton first organized in 1941) April 13-16.

## Tin Pan Alley Wins L.A. Lawsuit

### Stravinsky Is 250G Loser

The longhairs lost an important courtroom battle to Tin Pan Alley last month in Los Angeles Superior Court when Judge Joseph W. Vickers ruled Igor Stravinsky the loser in his \$250,000 suit against the defendant, Lou Levy's Leeds Music Corp.

#### No Legal Basis—Vickers

Judge Vickers held that the composer had no legal basis for the suit as presented—but suggested that as a breach of contract action it might stand in court.

However, he suggested that further litigation "would not do either party any good," and that a better course would be to attempt out-of-court settlement.

#### What Igor Charged

Stravinsky based his lawsuit on charges that the music house published an adaptation of the Rondo of his Firebird Ballet Suite under the title "Summer Moon"—and credited him with authorship, though it "was devoid of musical merit."

Also, he complained, he was publicized as writing popular music "for the juke box trade," and thus suffered impairment to his reputation and consequent embarrassment.

The composer was not in court during the four-week hearing, but was reported by his attorneys, Harold A. Fendler and Aaron Sapiro, to be on concert tour in the East.

#### No Question Of Money

The Leeds concern, represented by Atty. Max Fink, contended that Stravinsky had contracted for such publication, and that his Firebird music is now public domain, anyway.

"The court feels that a composer has the right to prevent his name from being gaffed to a composition which he did not write," Judge Vickers said in part. "It is not a question of money.

"A composer of the stature of Stravinsky is far more interested in not having music presented to the public if it is not his own," he added. "I feel so strongly on this that it clouds the issue."

#### 'Critics' Fail To Impress

Of extreme importance to the pop music profession was the testimony of various "critics" assembled by Stravinsky's lawyers who brazenly opined that Irving Berlin, the late Jerome Kern, Cole

Porter and other celebrated pop tune cleffers were men of virtually no talent, in comparison to Stravinsky, and that the Russian plaintiff did not care to be classified along with them.

Judge Vickers refused Leeds' attorneys the right to use as an exhibit the "Ebony Concerto" by Stravinsky which Woody Herman's band recorded with Stravinsky's assistance. He said it had no bearing on the question.

## Basie Leaves Cotton Club

Pearl Bailey and Lee Young's new California dance band were the replacements for Count Basie's music and a flash show at the Hollywood Cotton Club in mid-March.

The club, operated by Hal Stanley, has thus reduced its staggering talent "nut" in the face of the most alarming nitery situation on the west coast since the depression days of the 1930's.

#### Young A Top Drummer

And with patronage still slumping because of Lent and other factors, Stanley admitted the month of April looked "nip and tuck" despite his smaller budget. The Cotton Club actually is the old Florentine Gardens on Hollywood boulevard near Bronson; it is a huge room with a heavy overhead regardless of the talent featured.

Young, brother of Lester, rates as one of the most popular and "in demand" drummers on the

coast. His crew at the Cotton Club is comprised of top-drawer instrumentalists.

#### John Simmons On Bass

Pearl Bailey is the "Tired" girl, a ranking singer who chose the Cotton Club bid over a similar pitch from Gene Norman at the competing Hollywood Empire.

Musicians comprising Young's crew include Vernon Smith, Jack Traynor, Ed Preston, trumpets; Henry Coker and James Robinson, trombones; Marshall Royal, Jules Grant, Maxwell Davis, Johnny Rudolph, saxes; Gerald Wiggins, piano, and John Simmons, bass. All are permanent residents of Los Angeles.

## Doris Day For Horn?

Blonde Doris Day may bag a big role in "Young Man With a Horn" which WB soon will film. The ex-Les Brown oriole has just tested for the part. Story is based on Bix Beiderbecke's career.

# Armstrong Revives Hope For H'wood Night Club Men

The Hollywood Empire opened its doors again on March 24, after being dark several nights, when a sudden booking brought Louie Armstrong's All-Stars to the nitery for a short engagement.

## Saves Spot's Rep

Operated by Gene Norman, KFWB jockey, the Empire struggled through the Duke Ellington run, breaking even, then immediately lost money with Louis Jordan's band, which was teamed with Paula Watson, and Roy Milton's combo with Slim Gaillard as an extra attraction. Biz became so poor in early March that Norman decided to lock the room up until future "surefire" attractions could be presented.

The current Armstrong engagement is putting the Empire back in good financial shape. Jack Teagarden and his big, brassy trombone and vocals; Barney Bigard, clarinet; Earl Hines, piano; Big Sidney Catlett, drums; Arville Shaw, bass, and Velma Middleton, vocals, team with the great Satchmo to form one of the most musical, and entertaining, jazz combos of all times.

## Berg's Folds Suddenly

Business in other Hollywood hot-spots was, on the contrary, tabbed

as "miserable" all down the line. So poor was the pulling power of the much-publicized Illinois Jacquet and combo that Billy Berg's Vine street spot simply folded. Jacquet is now heading back east with his combo and will go through Texas.

Count Basie, at the Cotton Club, put down big batches of the finest "big band" music heard on the west coast in years. But biz was feeble, and Lee Young's new crew and Pearl Bailey have since replaced his band.

## Cricket Folds Up Too

Dizzy Gillespie also played to empty tables, at Berg's, before the Jacquet engagement. Dick Jurgens proved a mild draw at the Palladium. Orrin Tucker and Vic Borge were only so-so at the Cocoanut Grove.

## Couldn't Get Worse?

The Cricket Club, where Bull Moose Jackson and Savannah Churchill recently performed, also closed up. No business.

But Armstrong—and Benny Goodman at the Palladium—appear to be boosting the shape of things boite-wise. Even Lent has proved no barrier. Nitery men, and musicians whose jobs depend upon nitery openings, feel the bottom was reached and that the cycle is again whirling upward.



**CHARLIE VENTURA** is no stranger to Californians, but when he opens in Hollywood April 18 at the Empire it will mark his first west coast appearance as a leader. Charlie hit the chips a few seasons back blowing his tenor pipe with Gene Krupa.

## 'Satch' Cuts Philco Show With Crosby

Louis Armstrong's band has just cut a Philco show with Bing Crosby and it will be aired in mid-April over ABC. Louie, long a pal of Crosby's, exchanges banter with the Croz and shares a vocal with him. Platter, shipped out to stations all over the country, was cut during Louie's Empire run.

# June Christy, Carter Due April 5

## H'wood Empire Gets 'Em Both

Benny Carter's pulsating new band will follow Louie Armstrong's All-Stars into the Hollywood Empire on April 5. And June Christy will be the extra attraction.

The former Kenton thrush, now working as a single, has been busy finding and furnishing an apartment in Hollywood in which she and her husband, Bob Cooper, will make their permanent residence. The job at the Empire will be her first on the west coast since the Kenton ork disbanded last December.

Carter, for two decades renowned as the most versatile musician in jazz, has been rehearsing his new "big" crew for three months. He and June will hold forth for two weeks only.

Charlie Ventura and his combo are already set to follow the Carter-Christy combine starting April 19. Jackie Cain and Roy Kral will come west with Charlie to do vocals, most of them sung along with Ventura's tenor.

Carter intends to take his new band east at the conclusion of the Empire run.



**BACK IN** the limelight again as a single, June Christy is ready to open April 5 at the Hollywood Empire. Benny Carter's sparkling new band also will make its debut the same night. They'll hold only two weeks, however, then go on tour.

## Chesterfield Nabs Crosby

Bing Crosby will be sponsored by the makers of Chesterfield cigs starting next fall. The Groaner washes up his current ABC series for Philco next month.

Bing also will air over CBS for the cig company, and at a reported fee of about \$9,000 per week. Other charges will run the cost, to the sponsor, to \$33,000 weekly for the half-hour show.

## Ray Anthony To Cut Cap Wax

A handsome young trumpeter who frequently is mistaken for Cary Grant, and whose dance band has been arousing enthused comments throughout the east, soon will be featured for the first time on the purple Capitol label.

He is Ray Anthony, who once held down a chair in the brass section of the pre-war orchestra of Glenn Miller. The first biscuits by Ray's crew will be released nationally next month. Dick Noel and the Skyliners are the vocalists.



**BIG JACK** Teagarden, now in Hollywood with Louie Armstrong at the Empire, still blows the barhouse bone which brought him fame 20 years ago. And like Armstrong, his appearance in Filmtown invariably brings out droves of fans who find his tram all the more distinctive with the passing of the years.

## Texas Next On Cavallaro Tour

His run at the Cocoanut Grove of the Los Angeles Ambassador Hotel over, Carmen Cavallaro and his bandmen train east this month for a similar stint at the new Shamrock Hotel in Houston. Opening date is April 7.

The band will play one-nighters en route to the Lone Star metropolis and then move on to Chicago and New York in May.

## MEL TORME

**'CARELESS HANDS'**  
With Sonny Burke and his Orchestra • Capitol Record No. 15379

**'BLUE MOON'**  
With Orchestra Conducted by Pete Rugolo  
Capitol Record No. 15428

**Capitol RECORDS HOLLYWOOD**

"Velvet Fog's" first sides for Capitol... Sensational hits!

**Capitol**  
*Forty Five*  
RECORDS



## GREAT NEWS FOR RECORD FANS!

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- Trigger-action split-second changing.

Ask to hear the sensational new Capitol "Forty-Five" records at your dealer.

(Note: Along with its new "Forty-Fives," Capitol will continue to issue all selections on 78 r.p.m. records—for America's 16 million standard phonographs.)

**Capitol**  
RECORDS  
HOLLYWOOD

CAPITOL NEWS

## Cap All-Out For Bop With 8 Platters

In an all-out drive to build its catalog of available jazz discs so that all types of le hot are represented, James B. Conkling has just set for release in mid-April eight new bop platters—most all of them recorded in New York—which feature instrumental as well as vocal bop performers.

"Capitol, with well-rounded supplies of blues, Dixieland, Kenton-Herman-Barnet progressive and various vocal types of jazz, now believes it is offering the younger bebop devotees the finest in that field," Conkling said. "Capitol, naturally, will continue to record and release all types of popular music, Hit Parade ballads and every kind of contemporary music. We have just signed Pete Daily's Chicagoans, for example, to a long-term contract. But we feel this



COMPARE THIS study in artistic endeavor with altoist Sahib Shihab (page 2). Dave Lambert, behind the whiskers up there, is rated one of the most "gone" of the 1949 bop singers. He bows as a Cap artist this month with a 12-voice choir on "Hawaiian War Chant" and "Always."

new package of bop will serve a definite need."

Here are the individual discs just released:

**Three Bips And A Bop**  
(Babs Gonzales)

"Professor's Bop" and "Capitolizing." Cap 57-60,000.

**Dave Lambert**  
"Hawaiian War Chant" and "Always." Cap 57-60,001.

**Dave Barbour's Ork**  
"Little Boy Bop Go Blow Your Top" and "Ensenada." Cap 57-60,002.

**Lennie Tristano's Sextet**  
"Wow" and "Crosscurrent." Cap 57-60,003.

**Bill Harris**  
"How High The Moon" and "The Moon Is Low." Cap 57-60,004.

**Miles Davis' Ork**  
"Godchild" and "Jeru." Cap 57-60,005.

**Tadd Dameron's Ork**  
"Casbah" and "Sid's Delight." Cap 57-60,006.

**Alice Hall Trio**  
"Pennies From Heaven" and "Caravan." Cap 57-60,007.

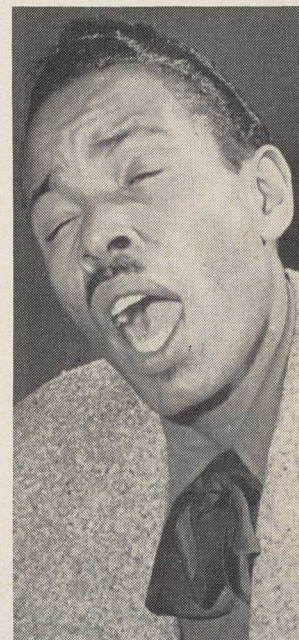
Conkling pointed out that the new idiom represented by the eight discs has aroused more controversy than any pop music since "swing" hit big in 1936. Most of the New York sessions were supervised by former Stan Kenton arranger, Pete Rugolo.

## Red Ingle On 3 Shows

The busiest little band in the world, at least as far as radio goes, is Red Ingle and the Natural Seven.

Currently in New York, Ingle and his men—with Karen Tedder thrushing—are featured on three radio programs. One is a morning stanza over NBC at night on the Henry Morgan show, and the third has just been launched, also on NBC, Sundays at 8:30 p.m. Eastern standard time.

Red is trying to figure how to handle the three mike commitments, because on April 16 his crew will return to the Village Barn nitery.



AND AGAIN, the modern bop vocalist poses while cutting biscuits. Babs Gonzales, this time, heads the Three Bips and a Bop, a singing combo which has been working the better New York roosts.

Photos by Popsie.



# Goodman Setting Europe Trip New Band Bops Only Rarely

When the Benny Goodman band pulls stakes from the Hollywood Palladium early this month after one of the most spectacular and profitable engagements the dancery has enjoyed in years, Benny will hit the road on coast one-nighters and complete plans for a tour of Europe later this summer.

## Entire Band Will Go

"We are trying to set up the jump across the Atlantic for June or July," Goodman said. "Everyone in the band will make the trip."

Goodman's crew, under current labor laws, will not be able to perform in Great Britain unless Benny elects to play his stick as a single. A pitch is being made, however, for Benny to pay standby salaries to British musicians and if this unprecedented plan is accepted, then BG's American sidemen could perform in London and the British provinces.

## Little Bop Offered

Benny, meanwhile, has left MCA again and Joe Glaser is booking the band. It will be Glaser, too, who will complete the negotiations for the European trek. France, Sweden and other countries will be included, and several appearances for U. S. boys in the armed forces abroad are contemplated.

Goodman's band bops on approximately one out of 10 numbers



AND HERE is Benny Goodman with two of his featured sidemen, Wardell Gray on tenor sax and Doug Mettome, trumpeter from Salt Lake City, on the Hollywood Palladium bandstand during their whammy run which brought huge crowds despite the worst nitery recession since the 1930's. They hope to tour Europe this summer.

at the Palladium. Benny himself never blows in the bop idiom, but several of the full band's arrangements are boppish and sidemen like Doug Mettome, trumpet; Wardell Gray, tenor; Buddy Greco, piano and vocals, and Eddie Bert, trombone, stand up and beep sporadically.

But Californians who have flocked to greet the "Swing King"

heard hardly any bop, although various reports from the east were emphatic in declaring that the band—organized just a few months ago in New York—was strictly goatee. On the contrary, Benny seems to lean towards standards like "And The Angels Sing," "String Of Pearls" and the like. Benny also is carrying with him a complete floor show.

# Cowboy Film Booked Next For Monroe

Vaughn Monroe's ambition to play a screen cowboy apparently will be realized this summer. A deal just signed by his manager, Willard Alexander, calls for Mr. Muscles to hit Hollywood in July, with his band, prepared to star in an untitled stagecoach opus to be shot at Republic Studios.

## Abe Lyman Helps

Monroe has been mentioned for various films in years past, and at one time, during the war, he was supposedly all set to become a cowpoke star at MGM.

Backing the singer in the celluloid endeavor will be the vet Abe Lyman, drummer and leader who has been in retirement here several years, and Harry Arthur. They have formed an independent producing company.

Monroe's big troupe of musicians will not draw a layoff while the boss emotes, Alexander said. It is figured that radio commitments will keep the musicians busy even though the orchestra itself might not be seen in the movie.

## Bringing Motorcycle?

Monroe and his men haven't played the west coast in more than a year, and their film work to date has been limited to shorts and brief scenes in big musicals. Monroe is expected to scurry around Filmtown on his motorcycle, as he did the last time he was here.

# 12 Dances in MGM's 'On The Town' Film

Twelve dance numbers are being prepared at MGM for the forthcoming "On The Town" musical starring Gene Kelly, Frank Sinatra and Ann Miller. Of the even dozen, the singer is skedded to hoof five numbers. Betty Garrett will also be in it.

# Or... So Dear To Their Hearts

Peg Lee and Dave Barbour really don't expect their waxed version of Alec Wilder's "While We're Young" to be a big hit. But they do feel that it's one of the most unusual—and artistic—songs they have ever performed. And if you're really curious, the snapshots here will give a fair idea of just how Peg and Dave really looked when they were young, very young, as children.

Look—then go listen to the record.



DAVE BARBOUR  
At 4 in Flushing, Long Island.

# MEET THE JOCK!

BOB EUBANKS calls records "black stuff" and although he has moved up to become program di-



rector of KORE in Eugene, Ore., his heart is still with the circular shellacs. The station has been on the air 21 years and Bob, 28, has an equally good record in a much

shorter space of time—four children. He's a former trumpeter, born in California, and started in radio in South Dakota. He also is a former marine and a ham actor. But his gab at a mike pulls mail...and loyal audiences.



PEGGY LEE  
Not yet 2 in North Dakota.

# Hutton-Astaire Duo

Betty Hutton and Fred Astaire start "Little Boy Blue" at Paramount May 1. Bob Fellows will produce. Norman McLeod will meg.

JULIA LEE AND HER BOY FRIENDS  
Vocal with Orchestra

'I DIDN'T LIKE IT THE FIRST TIME  
(THE SPINACH SONG)'

Get those tricky lyrics... as only Julia can sing 'em!  
over for 'SIT DOWN AND DRINK IT OVER'

Capitol Record No. 15367



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FLOATING POINT  
NYLON NEEDLE  
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Resilient Nylon Arm  
Filters Record Scratch

Permium (Osmium Alloy) Tip  
for Long Life

MICROMETER PRECISION AND DESIGN



**JIMMY WAKELY** looks like this in Monogram's musical western, "Gun Law Justice." The sagebrush singer and his guitar are selling more records in the western field than any other performer these days, and this month he is out on tour. The heart interest here is Jane Adams. The heavy is John James. Wakely sings himself in and out of trouble all the way.

## Vallee Back In California As Headliner At The Grove

Rudy Vallee returned to California nitery work on March 29 after a surprising comeback in the New York cafe and video fields. Topping a package which also features Del Courtney's music, the original swoon baritone is skedded for at least four weeks at the Hotel Ambassador's Coconut Grove.

Vallee and Courtney took over as Carmen Cavallaro's band and the Modernaires moved out.

Vallee, who lives on a high hill overlooking the city of Los Angeles, has made no nitery appearances in the west for many years. Occasionally he plays a film role. Last winter, however, he sped back to Manhattan, clicked in clubs and teevee, and now returns as a "new" act. Most of the turn is devoted to his singing nostalgic old ballads which he popularized in the late 1920's when he was rated as the world's highest paid entertainer.

**LOUD! BETSY GAY HILARIOUS! BRASH!**

With Andy Parker And His Plainsmen  
With Frank DeVol And His Rhythm Busters

**'I DIDN'T KNOW THE GUN WAS LOADED'**

Capitol Record No. 15421



**ETHEL WATERS** will be featured in films again.

The singer, at one time as popular as Lena Horne is today, has, in recent years, been doing concerts from coast to coast. But now she's preparing a screen comeback at 20th-Fox Studios. The title will be "Pinky" and John Ford will be the director. Star of the production, which is based on a highly controversial racial theme which Darryl F. Zanuck is anxious to produce, will be Jeanne Crain.

Romance item: Dick Haymes will wed Nora Eddington Flynn in May, immediately after her Las Vegas divorce from Errol Flynn becomes final. The crooner is still looking for a radio sponsor.

Mel Torme, who is still trying to line up a theater date in London for this summer, follows his current stint at the Chicago Blue Note with a week at the Olympic Theater in Miami beginning April 13, then a week at the Capitol in Washington, D. C.

Dinah Shore nixed an offer to become a female disc jockey over the Mutual web in Hollywood but Frank Sinatra, who will soon leave the Hit Parade, is said to be interested in a similar deal.

Nellie Lutcher, closing at the Oriental Theater in Chicago on April 6, is featuring Benny Booker on bass. Nel speeds east for five days at the Kavakos Club in Washington April 8-13 and then opens at the Royal Roost, bop fortress on New York's Broadway, April 14 for three weeks. Her next record will pair "A Chicken Ain't Nothin' But a Bird" with her own "Ditto From Me To You." Disc due out the middle of this month.



**DISCOVERED** right off Vine and Sunset while beating a hot Baldwin and chirping novel original tunes, Betty Hall Jones this month makes her debut as a Capitol artist with distinctive versions of "This Joint's Too Hip For Me" and "Why Can't You Love That Way?" Nellie Lutcher tipped Capitol to the BJJ talents and now she's on her way.

## Bob Keene Ork Bags New Stand

Artie Shaw can like it or lump it, but the slick little dance band which Bob Keene organized for him in Hollywood last summer is moving right ahead in California. Shaw originally indicated he would come west and take over the combo as leader, then reneged, but Keene has kept it together and it is one of the few aggregations landing steady work.

Keene, a clarinet player, opened March 23 at the Swan Club in South Gate, just outside Hollywood, and is set for two weeks.

Ace Hudkins is managing end drumming in the band. He was affiliated with Shaw for several years, but for nearly 10 months now has been working with Keene and promoting Bob's new outfit.



**LIONEL HAMPTON** already is making plans for a return to the west coast. With Joe Glaser, his mentor, frantically setting up mid-summer bookings, it is definite that the Hamp's blasting gang of jazzmen will return to Oakland for a July 3 one-nighter at a reported guarantee of \$5,000 (against 60 per cent) for the single evening's work.

This, Papa Glaser wants it known very definitely, constitutes the biggest guarantee ever made a band for a single night's job in the west, this year, last year or any year.

Hampton's box-office pull is said to have attracted the attention of the Hollywood Palladium, which has never—ever—played a Negro orchestra. But biz at the Pally has been so slim the past couple of years that its ops are now reportedly interested in signing Hamp—if it means customers.

But Hamp, who wasn't welcome at the Palladium when even Grade D bands fared well, may balk at the sudden invitation. He's likely to come to Hollywood and go into a competing spot just for the hell-uv-it.

Publicity agents regularly resort to far-fetched angles and stories attempting to exploit their artist clients but here's a new high for the season:

We are informed that Smiling Jack Smith has been selected as "the man with whom the 3,000,000 members of the National Dinking Association would most like to dunk with."

And what's the pitch, the angle? National Doughnut Week, it says here on the publicity release, which will be "observed" in late April from Boston to Diego. Well, it got 18 lines of type in this sheet.

MGM put young Andre Previn to work scoring "Border Incident."

Few of his pals have heard from Stan Kenton, presumed to be ex-

tending his vacation in South America. And he is yet to advise anybody—even his milkman—when he, his wife and daughter will be home again.

Jerry Fielding replaced Stan Meyers as bandleader on the Groucho Marx radio show.

Mark Warnow will soon be returning to New York after a year or two in Hollywood. He will resume as baton-waver on the "Hit Parade" program, which will be televised. Frank Sinatra will be gone, cheaper performers will be featured and a return to the old pre-war format of "faster, brighter" music will be dusted off and installed again. The program will remain on NBC.

Tenor Clark Dennis formed his own song firm, Pegheart Music, with his manager Tom Sheils. Offices are in Hollywood.

Connie Haines is recording 52 programs, 15 minutes each, in behalf of the U. S. Marines. The ABC network will air the series. And the Page Cavanaugh Trio will back her pipings.

## Freddy Martin Goes East For Summer

Off again on his annual spring trek to the east after wintering in California, Freddy Martin and his band will play Salt Lake City, Omaha, St. Louis and Milwaukee this month before heading to Chicago and New York for theater runs. Freddy, soon to observe his 20th year as a leader, said he wouldn't return to the west coast until August or September.

## WHOO'S WHERE

**GENE KRUPA:** Palladium.  
**LEE YOUNG:** Cotton Club.  
**LOUIS ARMSTRONG:** Empire.  
**BENNY CARTER:** Empire starting April 5 with June Christy.  
**DEL COURTNEY:** Coconut Grove.  
**RED NICHOLS:** Hangover.  
**PETE DAILY:** Eddie's Monkey Room.  
**JAN GARBER:** Biltmore.  
**KID ORY:** Beverly Cavern.

## MEET THE JOCK!

**BOB VAN CAMP** makes claim to being the only "organ playing jockey in the south." And that's the tipoff on his showmanship; every morning he plays waxes, then suddenly he moves over to his Hammond and continues right along with the records. This unorthodox behavior has attracted many listeners, and Bob always credits Dick Leibert with helping him master the keyboard. A graduate of Duke University, Van Camp is loyal to the same campus which produced Les Brown, Sonny Burke and Johnny Long. Georgians hear him daily over Atlanta's WSB.



## Margaret Whiting

With Frank DeVol And His Orchestra

## 'FOREVER AND EVER'

Magnificent love song thrillingly sung!

over for 'DREAMER WITH A PENNY'

Capitol Record No. 15386



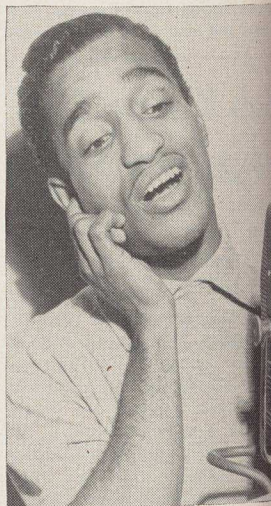
**FIRST CASABA** squad ever to be sponsored by Capitol Records resulted, at the season's end, in no offers for tournament appearances at Madison Square Garden. But the Cap cagers at least defeated Woody Herman's team of musicians as well as CBS, Station KFWB and others. Shown (rear row) are Ray Prochnow, Skins Glickman, Mel Cole, Keith Gordon and Jim Nix. Front row, Norvell Powell, Joe Proscia, Mickey Goldsen and Dave Dexter. Missing from photo are Lee Young, forward and drummer, and Big Glenn Claussen, who did much to hold the quintet together.

Damage was estimated at more than \$50,000.

## Mrs. Dorsey Improving

Mrs. Jimmy Dorsey is up and around again after narrowly missing a fiery death last month at the Dorsey's big Toluca Lake home just north of Hollywood.

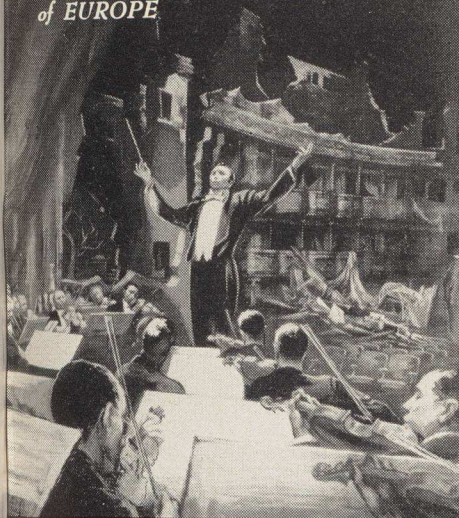
The bandleader's wife was saved while flames destroyed one wing of the house. Although burned, Mrs. Dorsey arrived at a Burbank hospital in time for medical treatment. Jimmy, on tour with his band, flew home to be with her. He also learned that his valuable record collection had disappeared.



**THE MAN** of many voices, Sammy Davis, Jr., has a voice of his own which is soon to make him a national favorite. Just 22, Sammy is one of the nation's great dancers, too, and his versatility is evident on "The Way You Look Tonight," a Cap disc which shows Davis at his impressionistic best.

## RENAISSANCE

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"Capitol's Mark of Musical Merit"... a new symbol that sets a new standard of quality in classical recording.



## FIRST ALBUM RELEASE

### ERNA SACK

*The European Nightingale*

Potpourri—Parts 1 and 2

Parla Valse by Ardit

Funiculi Funicula by Denza

Jubilate by Silcher

Swallows from Austria by Josef Strauss

Album ECL-2500 (three 12-inch records)—\$5.00

### BEETHOVEN

*Eroica Symphony No. 3 in E-flat Op. 55*

Amsterdam Concertgebouw Orchestra

Conducted by Mengelberg

Album EFL-2502 (six 12-inch records)—\$8.75

### HINDEMITH

*Mathis der Maler (Matthias the Painter)*

Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra

Conducted by the Composer

Album ECL-2503 (three 12-inch records)—\$5.00

### FRANZ LEHAR

*Operettas from Vienna*

Merry Widow—Count of Luxembourg—Paganini

Album ECL-2501 (three 12-inch records)—\$5.00

### BRUCKNER

*Mass in E Minor*

Choir and Orchestra of the Hamburg State Opera

Conducted by Max Thurn

Album EEL-2504 (five 12-inch records)—\$7.50

## FIRST SINGLE RELEASE

### Side 1—VOICES OF SPRING

Waltz (Johann Strauss)

### Side 2—THE NIGHTINGALE

Russian Folk Song (Alexander Alabieff)

Record No. 81000—\$1.25

### ERNA SACK

With the Orchestra of the German Opera House, Berlin Under the Direction of Dr. Hans Schmidt-Isserstedt

### OVERTURE TO THE SICILIAN VESPERS (Verdi)

LA SCALA ORCHESTRA OF MILAN Under the Direction of GINO MARINUZZI

Record No. 82000—\$1.50

### OVERTURE TO ALCESTE (Gluck)

THE BERLIN PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA Under the Direction of WILHELM FURTWÄNGLER

Record No. 81001—\$1.25

### THE ROMAN CARNIVAL: OVERTURE

(Le Carnaval Romain, Op. 9) (Berlioz)

DR. WILLEM MENGELBERG

Conducting the

CONCERTGEBOUW

ORCHESTRA OF AMSTERDAM

Record No. 81002—\$1.25

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## One Mab To Another...



**POWDER YOUR** bass with sunshine, and Ed Safranski is just the guy who can do it. Long a bulwark of the Stan Kenton band, Safranski leaped over to the Charlie Barnet fold when Kenton recently called it quits and set sail for Brazil. Barnet, the original Mad

Mab of Musicdom, features Ed on the same "Safranski" arrangement (by Pete Rugolo) which was a gem in the Kenton books. And here the Mab and his new bass-plucker pose on Barnet's first disc date for Capitol. First two sides are "Lonely Street" and "Cu-Ba."